



# HISTORY & HERITAGE

IN SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA



*General Thomas Sumter*  
Columbia Museum of Art

In the 1740's, the first English-speaking settlers arrived to establish roots in the "Carolina Backcountry" along the banks of the Wateree River in central South Carolina.

From the old places of the quiet countryside to the exciting restaurants and entertainment of the historic downtown, Sumter is rich in culture and history. Take a trip back in time as you explore Sumter's timeless treasures.

there's more to explore at  
**LoveSumter.com**

From a rich and diverse military history to firsts in education and the Civil Rights Movement, Sumter, South Carolina is no stranger to memorable people and places. We invite you to take a step back in time and explore our bold past.

- The Sumter Opera House, built in 1894, features a 100-foot clock tower and Art Deco interior.
- The Sumter County Museum in the former Williams-Brice home, built in 1916, complete with a Carolina Backcountry Homestead.
- The Jewish History Museum highlights the community's important contributions to Sumter.
- Sumter's historic Hampton Park neighborhood features architectural styles dating from the 1840s along with monuments, historic markers and gardens.
- The Sumter County Cultural Center brings art, music, dance and more to the site of the former Edmunds High-School, built in 1939.
- The Sumter Military Museum celebrates Sumter's impressive military history.

**Other sites of historic interest include:**

- Lincoln School
- Swan Lake Iris Gardens
- Sumter Cemetery
- Morris College
- Mary McLeod Bethune Learning Center, Art Gallery & Park
- Goodwill Presbyterian Church and School
- Salem Black River
- Presbyterian Church
- LeNoir Store
- High Hills Baptist Churches
- General Thomas Sumter Memorial Park
- Church of the Holy Cross
- Poinsett State Park

For a full list of historic sites & markers, visit us online at [LoveSumter.com](http://LoveSumter.com) or call the Sumter Convention & Visitors Bureau at (803) 436-2640.

